

fice to travel and teach. He gathered disciples about him and thro them his principles were rapidly spread.

In the last years of his life he occupied himself in publishing his works and editing the sacred books.

We quote a few sentences from him :

"The essence of knowledge is having it to apply it ; not having it to express your ignorance."

"Worship as tho the deity were present."

"Faithfulness and sincerity are the highest things."

"When you transgress, do not fear to return."

"Learn the past and you will know the future."

Faotse, the founder of Taoism, was for twenty-eight years the cotemporary of Confucius. "He was a man of perhaps equal intelligence, but he was chiefly a thinker and made no attempts to elevate the people. Hewas the Zeno of the east, founder of a Chinese Stoicism." His disciples at various times modified his teachings, so that now they are said to resemble our modern Spiritism.

This study will prepare us for the study of Missions in this country. Some of the difficulties to be overcome, seemed more insurmountable than the Great Wall. But we shall further notice how through God's providence the walls have broken down and country laid open and inviting Missionary labor. May God open our eyes to see the "Doors of Opportunity" now open to the Christian world, and by faith in his promises, and obedience to his commands, to enter them, ere they close.

NOTES FROM THE NATIONAL OAPITOL.

W. M. LYON.

From Kings Children.

First, I wish to say that we all very much enjoy reading the KING'S CHILDREN. It is growing better all the time. I believe it is doing much in the way of developing the spirit of missions. God speed the glorious work !

TWO GRAVE OBJECTIONS.

Objections to what ? To the BRETHREN CHURCH. Who made them ? A professed Christian. Said he, "Leave our Sunday Schools and missionary work and your people would do very well." Said objector continued : "You cannot find missionary in the Bible, neither Sunday-school." Strong argument, he seemed to think. I gave him some scriptural reasons but he was one of the "bullet proof" kind. Just now it occurs to me that I should have asked him if he was right sure of his own existence, for I am confident that his own name can not be found in the Bible !

But there are others who share such views. What a pity ! This same man has gone to great expense to have a large room prepared where his children may dance and engage in other worldly amusements as they may desire ; and now comes the strangest part of all ; while he was not able to find Bible authority for Sunday-schools and missions, yet he could prove (?) by the scriptures that *it was not wrong to dance* ! All this because he believed in

PREDESTINATION !

No wonder people say sometimes, "You can prove anything by the Bible." Many use the Bible like the man who said he could "prove it was wrong to split rails" because it said, "What God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

ANOTHER STRANGE CASE.

This time a lady of seventy years, living all alone. In my house-to-house work I found her. I cannot tell why I came to be admitted, for she said, "You are the only person I have suffered to enter my house for years to talk on religion." Well, she had no use for the Bible of course. She said, "The Bible is no more than any other book, and the missionaries have caused nearly all the trouble. All the terrible trouble in Armenia has been caused by the missionaries."

But why did she condemn the Bible ? Let me tell one of her principal reasons. Years ago her husband had died in the Christian faith, as he claimed, and before his death he had told her that his presence would return to her after his deceased and that she should realize it and by this token know assuredly that the doctrine of the Bible was true" etc. Well, she waited ; is still waiting and no manifestation of his presence yet, so of course, the Bible evidently is untrue ! What would God have to be and do in order to meet the requirements and conceptions of many who deny him, and even many who profess to know him ! Ah, "what is man that thou art mindful of him !"

I wonder where this husband got his authority from to tell his wife that he would in spirit return to her after his death and make his presence known in some tangible way ! *I still wonder.* O, blessed Book of books, what awful things are often done in thy name !

But stranger still, perhaps, before leaving, this lady promised to read some tracts which I expect to leave her shortly ; she also promised to attend services sometime. She is a very intelligent lady, has traveled extensively and read much ; used to be a member of the Presbyterian church—the one where Dr. Talmage now presides.

But I must now tell how it came about that I gave her one practical hint of Bible truth before I left her. Her two sons had married badly, and contrary to her advice and lived very unhappily. I at once said, "What a pity they refused to heed the Bible which teaches us to "Honor our parents," etc. This seemed to confuse her for a moment. Our Father, have mercy !

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT GOD ?

This question was put to me by a gentleman as he opened the door to tell me his children could not attend Sunday-school. Said he, "My children know just as much about God as you can teach them."

Well, I am glad that those persons referred to in these notes are exceptions. Brother Talley, they are a few of the human "conundrums."

I cannot speak further on this line now. I fear I have already written too much. I close by asking all the "King's Children" to pray for the work and workers in this city.

Washington D. C.

WHOSE PLACE WILL YOU TAKE ?

You are looking out for a place. You may make a place for yourself. By some invention or enterprise or wise management you may originate some work which no one ever did before, and so have a place which is all your own. But in most cases boys as they grow up take the places which other men occupied, and do work which other men have done. It is quite important, therefore, for boys to consider what places they will take when they grow up.

"I read," says one writer, "of a boy who had a remarkable dream. He thought that the richest man in town came to him and said, 'I am tired of my house and grounds ; come and take care of them, and I will give them to you.' Then came an honored judge, and said, 'I want you to take my place ; I am weary of being in court day after day. I will give you my seat on the bench if you will do my work.' Then the doctor proposed that he take his extensive practice and let him rest, and so on. At last up shambled old Tommy, and said, 'I'm wanted to fill a drunkard's grave ! I have come to see if you will take my place in these saloons and on these streets.'"

Every boy should be preparing himself for the place he is to fill. The boy who is studious, honest, and true, is fitting for a good place. The boy who runs the streets nights, who lies and swears, smokes cigarettes, drinks beer, and keeps bad company—what kind of a place will he fill ?—*The Little Christian.*